



Morocco

Visa Arrangements

Please be aware that Study Abroad Office staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.

Entering Morocco

If you hold a European or North American passport you may enter Morocco as a tourist, and will then apply for a residence permit once in Morocco with the help of EGE Rabat.

If you hold a passport from another country you must contact the Moroccan Consulate in London or your country of citizenship to enquire about applying for a study visa prior to entering Morocco.

In order to apply for your Moroccan residence permit you must prepare several pieces of paperwork prior to departure, some of which may take some time. Please begin this process in good time.

Application Paperwork

We recommend you arrange the following paperwork before departing the UK:

- A legalized photocopy of the information page in your passport. Please see the section below on how to have a document legalized. You should have this done before leaving the UK.
- 9 passport photographs. While these could be obtained in Morocco, it will be easier to have them taken at home so you don't have to worry about finding a photographer/photo booth while you're settling in.
- A bank statement from your UK bank account showing access to enough funding to finance your year abroad. If you are unsure of whether you have enough funding, take a copy of your student loan statement as well.
- A legalized copy of your police record (an ACRO certificate, not a DBS check). Standard service to obtain this costs £45 (10 days), Express service costs £80 (2 days). You can read more and apply online: http://www.acro.police.uk/police_certificates.aspx

You will also need the following, to be obtained after arrival:

- Registration Letter from EGE Rabat: this will be provided to you by the international office at EGE shortly after your arrival.
- Housing contract or utility bill in your name from your Moroccan landlord.
- A stamp of 100 MAD (approx. £7 GBP, June 2016). EGE can advise on how to obtain this.
- A bank statement from a Moroccan bank showing a minimum balance of 1000 MAD (approx. £70 GBP, June 2016). EGE will advise on opening a bank account.
- A medical report from a Moroccan doctor. EGE will advise on this on your arrival.

How to Have your Documents Legalised

You must have your police certificate and passport copy legalised according to the *Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement for Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents*, or the *Apostille Convention*. This allows the authorities abroad to be confident that your document is official, and not falsified.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is the only UK body legally able to legalise documents. Once you have received your police certificate, you should follow the instructions on the FCO website (below) to submit your certificate to be legalised/receive its 'Apostille' stamp.

This process is pretty straightforward: you complete an application form, pay online, and post of your documents and application form. The FCO aim to process applications quickly. It will cost you £30 per document plus postage. We recommend you use royal mail special delivery to ensure your documents are sent securely and can be tracked. We also recommend you pay postage so that the FCO can return your documents securely.

<https://www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised>

When you send your document to the FCO, refer the above web page to make sure you have included all necessary documents.